

Massachusetts Ocean Management Initiative

Regional Characterizations

Massachusetts Office of Coastal Zone Management
July 30, 2003

North Shore Region



Andrea K. Cooper
Regional Coordinator

Revere - Salisbury

- 122.75 miles coastal frontage
- 56 beaches (37 limited)
- Rocky coastline
- Expansive salt marsh
- Historic marine industrial seaports
- Parker River Wildlife Refuge
- Two ACECs





Historic and Cultural Uses

- Ship building
- Historic fishing fleets
- Earliest sites of human habitation in MA.
- Atlantic Flyway of global significance
- Industrial mills and working farms
- Importation of goods from Europe





Existing Uses

- Commercial and recreational fishing
- Recreational boating
- Shellfishing
- Fish processing
- Whale watching
- Casino cruises
- Ferries (regional)



Interrelationship Between Uses

- Human activities vs. the environment and aesthetics
- Eco-tourism integrating nature and business
- Commercial vs. recreational
- Navigation and infrastructure limitations



Areas for Current and Future Uses

- Ipswich Bay
- Industrial ports of Gloucester and Salem

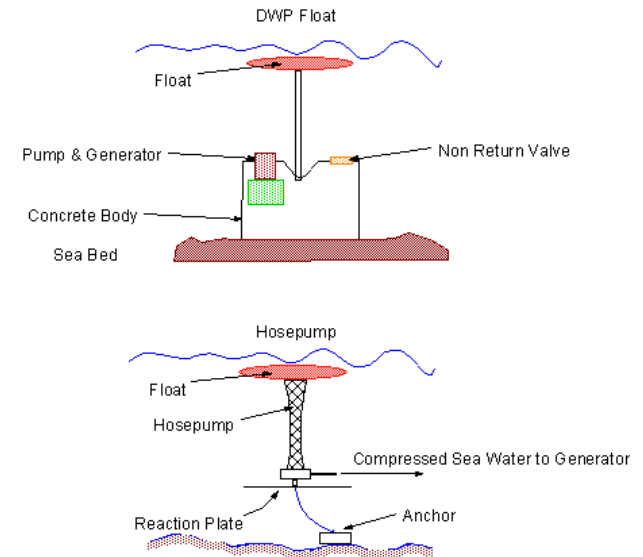


Anticipated for the Future

- Wind and wave energy
- International ferries
- Luxury cruise ships
- New casino boats
- Pipelines or cables
- Dredge material disposal
- Large fishing vessels to enhance seafood processing industry
- Aquaculture/proposed salmon farm

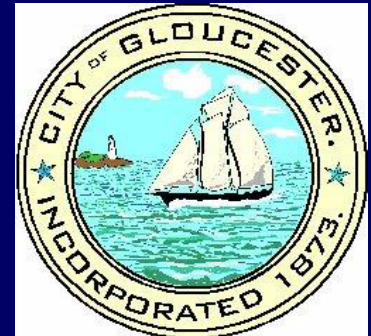
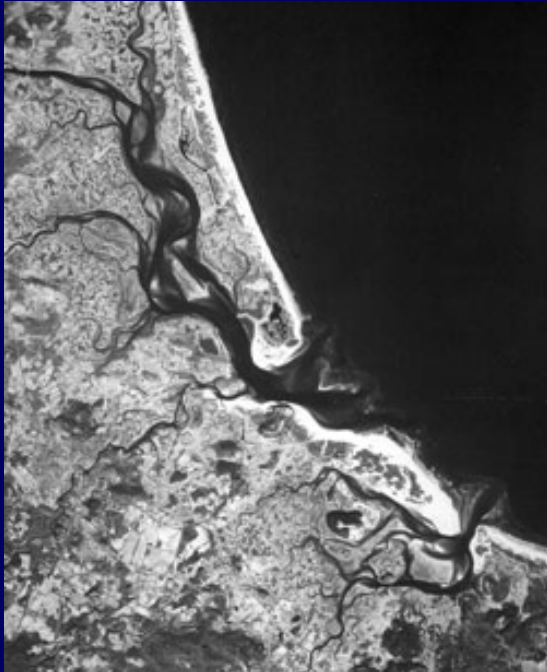


DIAGRAM REPRESENTATIVE OFFSHORE WAVE ENERGY DEVICES



Management Approaches

- Gloucester and Salem Municipal Harbor Plans and Designated Port Area Master Plans
- DMF Regional Fisheries Management Plan
- Upper North Shore Regional Boat Waste Management Plan
- Beach management plans
- Parker River Essex Bay ACEC management strategy



Boston Harbor Region

Jane W. Mead



Characteristics



- Municipalities: Winthrop to Weymouth
- Watersheds: Chelsea, Mystic, Charles, Neponset, Weymouth Fore and Back Rivers
- ACECs: Neponset Estuary, Belle Isle Marsh, Back River
- Boston Harbor Islands
- Public beaches, recreational boating and fishing
- Port of Boston

Economic Uses

- Commercial shipping
- Designated Port Areas: Chelsea, East Boston, Mystic, South Boston, Fore River
- Air freight
- Seafood packaging and distribution
- Energy delivery, storage, generation
- Regional waste water treatment



Interrelationship Among Uses



- Public access / marine industries
- Commercial shipping / northern right whales
- Linear marine projects / fisheries / commercial shipping
- Port security

■ Residential development / noise, dirt and hours of operations of commercial shipping, maritime industries, and land based transportation.



Future Uses and Needs



- Transportation – dredging for shipping, maintenance of rail service, efficient highway access, public transportation, and separation commercial and recreational traffic
- Land use – plan for co-existence of residential, office and retail with maritime industries and related infrastructure
- Energy – safe and efficient transport, storage and generation of power to meet increasing local and regional demand

Management Approaches



- Boston Harbor Plans
- DPA Master Plans
- DPA boundary reviews
- ACEC Resource Management Plans



South Shore Region

Jason D. Burtner
Regional Coordinator

Physical Description of Region

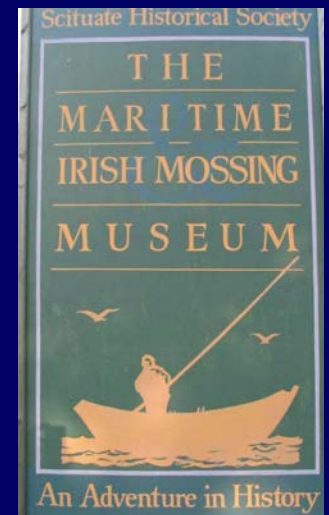
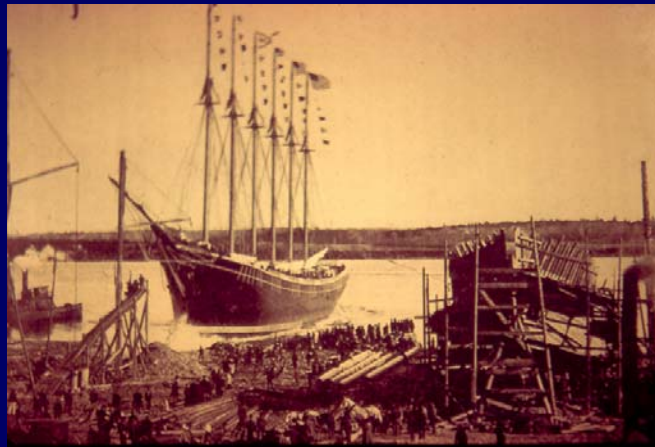


- 11 Communities
- Hingham – Plymouth
- Rocky coastal to sandy shores
- Barrier beaches
- Salt marshes
- North River Scenic Corridor
- ACECs: Weir River, Back River, Ellisville Harbor



Historic and Cultural Uses

- Commercial and Military Shipbuilding
- Commercial fishing
- Shellfishing
- Tourism - America's Home Town
- Recreation- summer communities
- Agriculture and harvesting



Existing Uses

- Recreational boating
- Commercial and recreational fishing
- Commuter ferries
- Aquaculture
- Shellfishing
- Whale watching
- Stellwagen Bank National Marine Sanctuary
- Energy – wind, wave, and nuclear



Interrelationship Between Uses

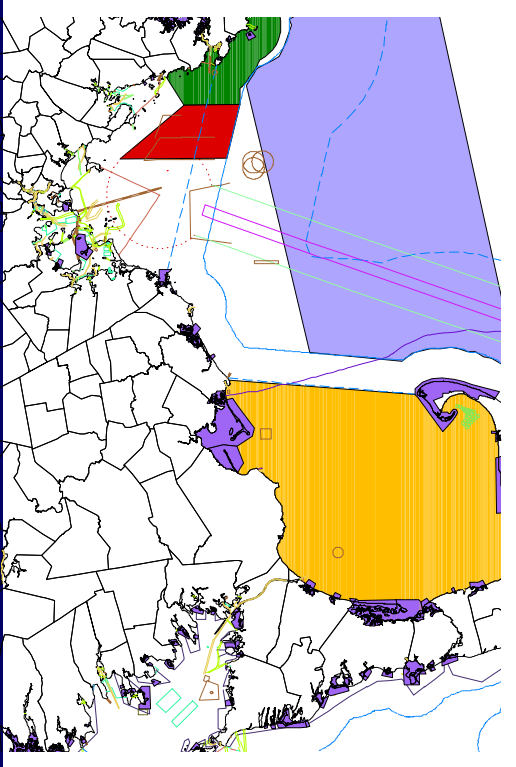


- Security zones
- Coastal hazard protection and beach nourishment
- Commercial vs. recreational uses
- Space and resource limitations
- Human use vs. protection of coastal resources



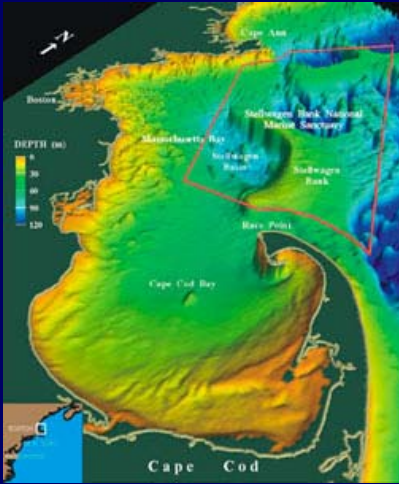
Anticipated Future Uses/Needs

- Beneficial reuse of dredge material – near shore
- Wind and wave energy projects
- Desalinization
- Aquaculture
- Vessel transit



Management Approaches

- Stellwagen Bank National Marine Sanctuary Management Plan
- North River Scenic and Recreational Protective Order
- Municipal Harbor Plans
- Weir River Estuary Park Visioning Workshop
- Beach Management Plans

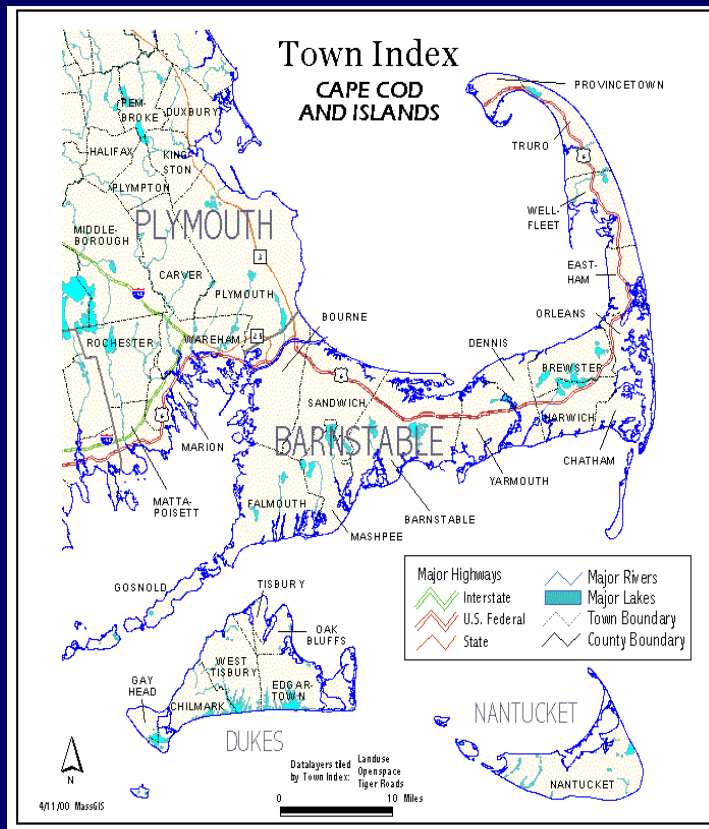


Cape and Islands Region



Truman Henson, Jr.
Regional Coordinator

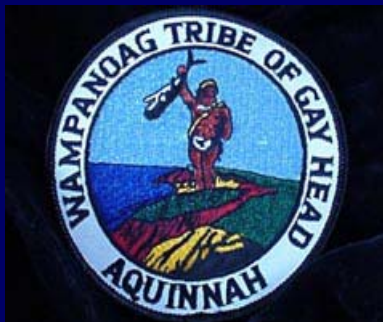
Physical Description of Region



- Cape Cod, Martha's Vineyard, Nantucket and Elizabeth Islands
- State waters delineation
- Cape Cod, Cape & Islands, Cape Cod Bay Ocean Sanctuaries
- Cape Cod National Seashore, several National Wildlife Refuges and Right Whale Critical Habitat units

Historical or Cultural Uses/Activities

- Commercial fishing (Chatham, Provincetown, Hyannis)
- Mashpee and Aquinnah Wampanoag Tribes
- Shellfishing
- Ship/Boat building & maintenance
- Yacht racing
- Tourism / Resort community



Existing Uses

- Commercial & recreational fishing & shellfishing
- Recreational boating
- Ferry & barge services
- Whale watching & deep sea fishing
- Electrical transmission
- Weir fishing
- Fuel & waste transportation
- Cruise ships



Interrelationship Between Uses



- Nantucket Sound
- Commercial vs. recreational activities
- Infrastructure limitations
- Fishing gear conflicts
- “Life support” for Islands
- Environmental quality
- Tourism-based economy



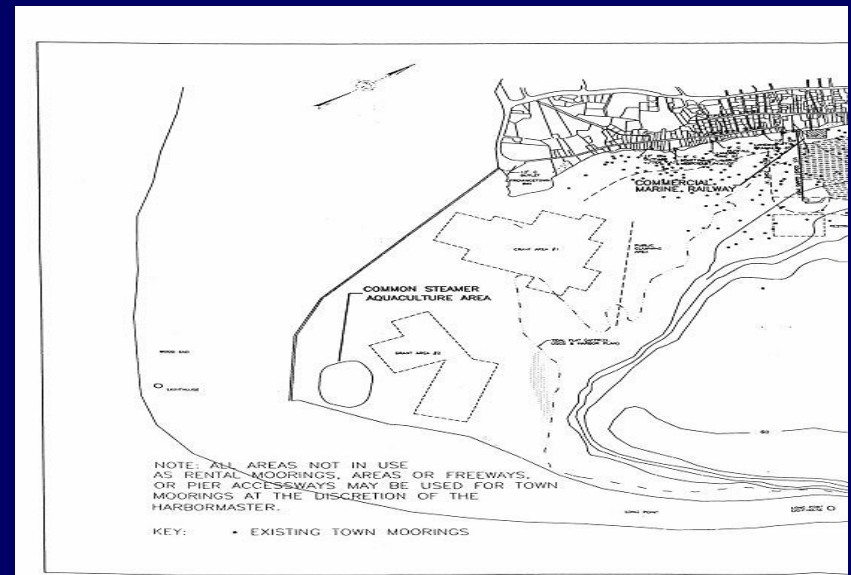
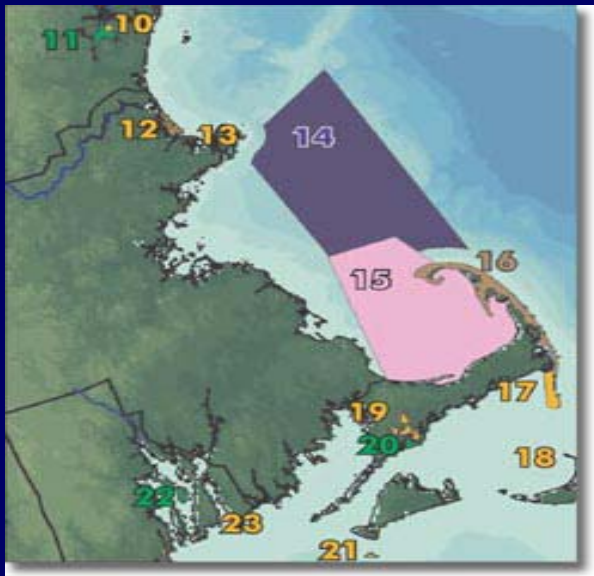
Anticipated Future Uses/Needs

- Wind (and other?) energy development
- Offshore aquaculture
- “Eco-tourism” opportunities
- Dredged material disposal
- Utility supply to Islands
- Marine transportation
- Expanded cruise ship interest
- Sand mining – beach nourishment



Management Approaches

- Water-sheet zoning
- Aquaculture site selection & management
- Harbor Planning initiatives
- Ocean Sanctuary model



South Coastal Region

Dave Janik

- Regional Coordinator

Physical Description of Region

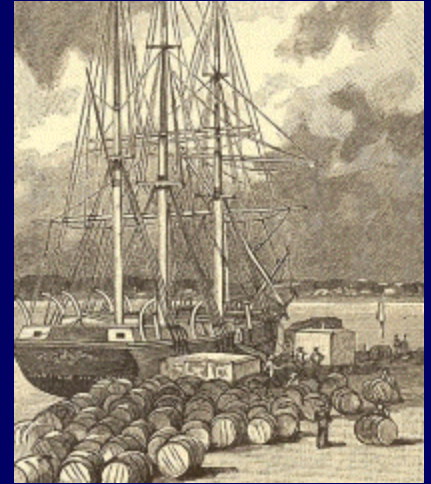


- Wareham to Seekonk
- Two major waterbodies Buzzards Bay & Mt Hope Bay
- Two major cities both with industrial ports
- Major shipping lane
- National Estuary Program designations
- Extensive natural resources
- Endangered species



Historic/Cultural Uses and Activities

- Ferry service to New York City and other New England locations
- Electricity generating center for New England
- Textile manufacturing centers
- Center of the world's whaling industry
- Fishing and fish processing
- Cape Cod Canal made Buzzards Bay a major shipping lane
- Hurricane barrier made a port of safe haven
- Tourism and recreation



Mt Hope Bay Existing Uses



- Designated Port Area
- Second deepest port in Commonwealth
- State Pier
- Two large electricity generating stations
- Large ferry building operation
- Old petroleum storage facility
- Significant shipping in bay to serve state pier, power stations, and industry

Buzzards Bay Existing Uses



- World renowned sailing
>13,000 recreational boats
- Significant commercial shellfishery
- Extensive recreational fishery
- Major shipping lane
- Significant port at New Bedford
- Dredge material disposal
- Vacation and recreation center



New Bedford Harbor Existing Uses



- Designated Port Area
- Most valuable fishing port in US
- Major fish processing center
- State Pier
- Extensive large boat repair facilities
- Ferry operations



Interrelationship Between Uses

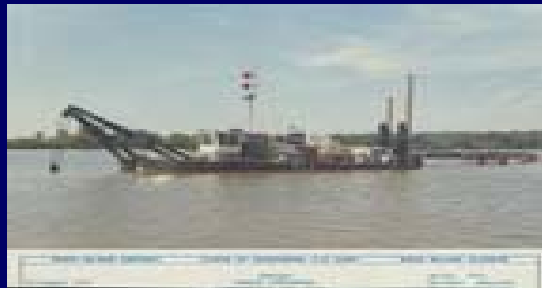
- Petroleum shipping vs. natural resources and recreation
- Historic conflict between commercial and recreational fin fishing interests
- Recreation boat sewage impacts on water quality
- Growth & development on environmental quality



Anticipated Future Uses



- LNG facilities
- Proposed designation of a federal dredge material disposal site in Block Island Sound (RI)
- Dredge material disposal in Buzzards Bay
- Wind energy
- Expanded ferry opportunities
- Expanded cruise ship opportunities



Management Approaches



- Prohibition by Congress of all commercial fishing in Buzzards Bay by nets, seines, and fish traps. (1890's)
- Federal No Discharge Area designation
- Differing state pilotage requirements on-board foreign flagged vessels only transiting Buzzards Bay
- State regs for the use of nets for commercial fishing in inshore waters
- Ocean Sanctuaries Act
- Water-sheet zoning

Uses Common to all Regions

- Fisheries (Recreational/Commercial)
- Tourism
- Recreation (Boating, swimming, nature)
- Transportation (high speed ferries, shipping, fuel shipments)
- Wind Energy
- Waste Disposal (dredge material, wastewater)
- Aquaculture